

REMARKS

The amendments made to the specification and claims by this Preliminary Amendment are made to place the specification and claims in the proper format according to U.S. practice and are fully supported by the application as filed herewith.

Applicant wishes to provide the USPTO with a copy of the application showing amendments (Exhibit A), and a clean copy of the application incorporating the amendments (Exhibit B). No new matter is added by these amendments. Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested.

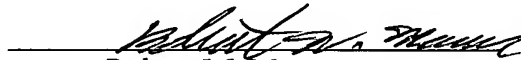
Please address all future correspondences to Customer No. 22829

Accordingly, no fee is believed due. The Commissioner is however authorized to charge deposit account no. 50-0812 for any fee deficiency, or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

4/11/00


Robert W. Mann
Reg. No. 48,555

Roche Molecular Systems, Inc.
1145 Atlantic Avenue
Alameda, CA 94501
Tele: (510) 814-2800
Fax: (510) 814-2973